

## **EXHIBIT A**



## Civil Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

February 29, 2008

**BY FACSIMILE**

The Honorable Victor Marrero  
United States District Court  
Southern District of New York  
United States Courthouse  
500 Pearl Street, Room 660  
New York, New York 10007

Re: *Knox v. Palestine Liberation Organization*, No. 03 Civ. 4466

Dear Judge Marrero:

On December 11, 2007, this Court issued an order directing the United States to inform the Court "whether the Government contemplates issuing a suggestion of interest in the resolution of this case, or in any of the other cases pending in other Districts against the defendants in this action raising similar issues as to the appropriateness of reopening default judgments entered against the defendants." The Court thereafter granted the United States' request for additional time to consider the matter. The United States has carefully considered the significant issues presented by this case and its procedural posture, as well as the cases pending in other districts. The United States respectfully informs the Court that it declines to file a Statement of Interest concerning the Rule 60 issues presented by this case, but will continue to monitor this and other cases like it. The United States has not yet decided whether or not to participate in those other cases. The United States supports just compensation for victims of terrorism from those responsible for their losses and has encouraged all parties to resolve these cases to their mutual benefit. At the same time, the United States remains concerned about the potentially significant impact that these cases may have on the financial and political viability of the defendants.

The Honorable Victor Marrero  
February 29, 2008  
Page 2

The United States appreciates the Court's invitation and the additional time that the Court afforded the United States to consider this matter.

Respectfully,

JEFFREY S. BUCHOLTZ  
*Acting Assistant Attorney General*

MICHAEL J. GARCIA  
*United States Attorney for the  
Southern District of New York*

  
CARL J. NICHOLS

CARL J. NICHOLS  
*Deputy Assistant Attorney General*

JOSEPH H. HUNT  
*Branch Director*

VINCENT M. GARVEY  
*Deputy Branch Director*

JEFFREY M. SMITH  
*Trial Attorney*

cc: David J. Strachman, Esq. (via facsimile)  
Counsel for Plaintiffs  
Fax Number: (401) 331-6095

Richard A. Hibey, Esq. (via facsimile)  
Counsel for Defendants Palestinian Authority  
and Palestine Liberation Organization  
Fax Number: (202) 626-5801